

REMARKS

The Drawings were objected to for including a reference number (transistor M213) in Figure 2 which was not mentioned in the Description. Applicants have amended the description at Paragraph 14 to include a mention of transistor M213. No new matter has been added as the recited amendment to Paragraph 14 is fully supported by Figure 2. Withdrawal of the objection to the Drawings is requested.

The Examiner notes that the Priority Document had not been filed as of the date of the Office Action. Applicants note for the record that the Priority Document was submitted on September 20, 2004. Applicants request confirmation that the Priority Document has been received.

Claims 1-20 have been objected to because of certain informalities. Applicants have amended the claims as indicated above to address these informalities. It is submitted that these amendments do not narrow the scope of the claims.

Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 1 has been amended to delete the “of the latch” language which was misdescriptive of the circuit configuration. Claim 4 has been amended to delete reference to each equalization circuit including a pair of transistors. Withdrawal of the Section 112 rejection is requested.

In view of the foregoing, claims 1-14 are believed to be in condition for favorable action and allowance.

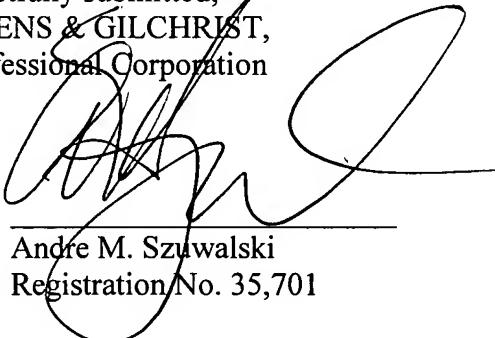
Claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kawasumi. Claim 16 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Kawasumi in view of Jung.

Applicants have amended claim 15 to include a recitation that the first and second inverters are not cross-coupled to each other. Kawasumi Figure 7 clearly shows that the inverters formed by transistors Q61-Q64 have a cross-coupled circuit relationship forming another latch in addition to the latch formed by cross-coupled transistors Q1-Q4. There is no teaching or suggestion in Figure 7 of Kawasumi for having the first and second inverters independently act as drivers to the conducting lines of the latch inverters. Such is possible with the claimed circuit where the first and second inverters are not cross-coupled to each other. In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the Section 102 and Section 103 rejections is requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for favorable action and allowance.

Respectfully submitted,
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